

This Week

Today

Sunday School	9:30 AM
Coffee & Conversation	10:30 AM
Morning Worship Service	10:45 AM

Wednesday

Wednesday Night Refresh	7:00 PM
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Thursday

Christmas Eve Service	6:30 PM
<i>Carols, Communion, and Candlelight</i>	

Celebrate Recovery

Teaching Night—"Hope"	7:00 PM
Cross Talk Café	7:45 PM
Open Share Groups— Men's/Women's	8:00 PM

Saturday

Saturation Prayer	7:00 PM
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Looking Ahead

Dec 27	No Sunday School
Dec 29	CCS Board Meeting
Dec 31	New Year's Eve Party
Jan 2	Men's Prayer Breakfast
Jan 6	Wednesdays with the Wise
Jan 12	MCN Board Meeting
Jan 22	Soup and Substance
Jan 29	CCS Board Meeting
Feb 3	Wednesdays with the Wise
Feb 6	Men's Prayer Breakfast

Financials		
	Tithes & Offerings	Missions
Received Last Week	10,320	1,232
Needed Weekly	9,600	767
Received Year to Date	346,339	26,486
Needed Year to Date	355,200	28,379
Surplus/Deficit	(8,861)	(1,893)

Sermon Text: Jeremiah 31:33,34; Hebrews 10:5-18; Luke 1:39-45

Sermon Questions

1. What did Mary believe (what was Elizabeth referring to)? Why were these things difficult to believe?
2. Why is the sacrifice of Jesus superior to every other sacrifice?
3. What is the promise God made to us, predicted by Jeremiah? Which part is most important to you?
4. Who is included in the promise of God?
5. What is it that allows me to continue to be a member of the family of Jesus Christ? Explain.
6. What did Jesus do that no other priest was able to do?
7. If the sacrifice for all of my sin has already been provided, do I ever need to ask for forgiveness for sin again? Explain.
8. How is the birth of Jesus a part of the sacrifice of Jesus?
9. Do you believe that in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has fulfilled His promise (made through Jeremiah) to you?

Activity Highlights

Women Connecting After Five—January 7 at 6 PM

Do you have a friend who would like to eat out with a friendly group of women? Bring her with you to the next meeting of Women Connecting After Five. Enjoy the fellowship of other women, eat a delicious dinner, enjoy an interesting program, and hear an encouraging speaker. Invitations with specific information are on the welcome tables. If you have questions, please see Marlene Peterson or Evelyn Banning.

Merry Christmas



MANCHESTER CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

218 Main Street, Manchester, CT • (860) 646-8599 • mcnaz.com

Welcome to Manchester Church of the Nazarene! We are delighted to have you with us today, as we seek to worship God, pray for one another and our world, and listen intently to whatever the Holy Spirit might say to us. Relax! Consider yourself among friends!

Sunday, December 20, 2015

Welcome Song and Welcome
(Children are Dismissed to Children's Church)

Advent Reading

Praise and Worship

Prayer

Announcements

Worship Through Giving

Investigating God's Word:
Jeremiah 31:33,34; Hebrews 10:5-18; Luke 1:39-45

Response to God's Word

Blessing

Thursday Evening, Christmas Eve Service—6:30 PM

Come celebrate the birth of Christ with us in a service of carols, communion and candlelight. The early service time (6:30 PM) is to encourage the participation of our children. Feel free to bring cookies to share!

Poinsettias

On the platform, poinsettias have been purchased [In Memory of](#) and [In Honor of](#) the following loved ones. Please take your plant(s) home today following the service or following the service on Christmas Eve.



In Memory of: Frank Smith and Norma Pierce

In Memory of: Herb and Una Thibodeau

With Love: Frank, Cindy, and Connor Smith



In Memory of: Christine Lazicki

With Love: The Sehi Family

In Memory of: Frances Lahr

With Love: Garry and Tonia Light



In Memory of: Chester Lettman

With Love: Dorothy, Karlene and Darnai

In Memory of: J. Richard & Elinor J. Cove

With Love: Dan and Nancy Whitney



In Memory of: Mr. David H. Blaney

In Memory of: Dr. and Mrs. Harvey Blaney

In Memory of: Mr. and Mrs. James V. Oddo

With Love: Fran Blaney



In Memory of: Robert and Grace Brown

In Memory of: Fred and Pauline Winkley

With Love: Virginia and Mark

Announcements

Many, Many Thanks!

A big THANK YOU to everyone who donated food for the Christmas baskets and gifts for our community kids. We were able to assist 9 of our neighbors with Christmas food baskets and gifts, and helped supply an additional 15 Christmas gifts to families in need. Hats off to the Augustines for their coordination efforts and to the folks who donated a new freezer to MCN to hold the turkeys . . . in hopes that we can do this kind of thing throughout the year.

No Sunday School—January 27

There will be no Sunday school classes on December 27 for the holiday break. In addition, we will keep the children who would usually be dismissed to children's church with us through the service next Sunday. Nursery assistance will be provided as usual.

Parsonage Preparations in Wakefield, RI

The Wakefield, RI Church of the Nazarene has a new pastor, and we have been invited (okay, volunteered by me) to assist this small church in getting their parsonage ready for the new pastoral family. Three things are needed: People to clean, haul out junk and paint. We are setting aside two days to assist with this project: January 2 and January 9. If you are interested in assisting, please contact Pastor Dan Whitney to volunteer. Wakefield is about a 95 minute drive in good weather. I suspect most of the first day will be hauling and cleaning, with some painting work, while most of the second day will be painting. We will be joined by some friends from the Rumford Church of the Nazarene in Rhode Island!

The installation service for the new pastor is January 24 at 2:00 PM. Place it on your calendar, if you want to go!

Announcements (Continued)

Pastors' Love Offering

As an expression of our appreciation for our Pastoral Staff, we ask that you join us in our annual love offering for Pastor Dan and Nancy and Pastor Garry and Tonia. If you would like to participate, please mark your check or envelope "Pastors' Love Offering." Checks should be made payable to Church of the Nazarene. Thank you. —Church Board

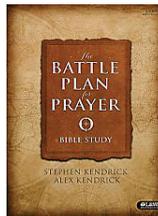
Ministry Safe

As you know, protecting the safety of our children is of highest concern to us. Our policies addressing the screening of individuals who work with children require additional training every two years, which means most of our workers are soon due to update their training. MINISTRY SAFE is the name of our training program. If you receive an email from MINISTRY SAFE, it is because MCN or CCS sent this to you because the time for your update has arrived. You have about 30 days to complete the training. Watch your email for the training link from MINISTRY SAFE!

Nursery and Toddler Room Assistance Needed

We still need a few volunteers to assist in the nursery or the toddler room. Volunteers serve on a rotating basis – or you can volunteer to be a back-up helper in the event of the illness of another volunteer. Please contact Cindy Augustine to volunteer!

Activity Highlights



New Sunday School Class Begins Soon—*The Battle Plan for Prayer*

Our Prayer Sunday school class began a new book called *The Battle Plan for Prayer* written by Stephen and Alex Kendrick last week. It is inspired by the *War Room* film. It's not too late to join this class, but please inform Jane Loftus as soon as possible to discuss options for ordering the book. The cost of the book is \$10 or you can order your own e book from CBD. The class meets in the upstairs chapel Sundays at 9:30 AM.

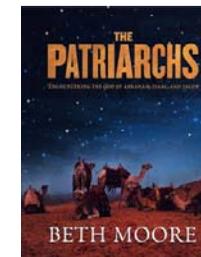
New Year's Eve Party—7 PM

At 7 PM on December 31, there will be a New Year's Eve Party at the church for families and friends. Bring board games and some snacks to share.

We will also have an hour long program for our children during this year's celebration from 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM, with a special "ball drop" at 9:00 PM to cheer in the new year. So we can best plan for this time, please note in the communication pad if you plan to attend this event and how many children will be joining us. Also, if you are able to assist with this event, please contact Tonia Light.

Beth Moore Bible Study to Begin January 7, 2016, 9:30—11:00 AM

"MOMENTS FOR MOMS" Bible study invites ALL WOMEN to attend *The Patriarchs: Encountering the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob*. Discover God's pursuit of relationship and the unfolding of His earthly plan: How through one nation—and ultimately one man—all people on earth will be blessed. A DVD driven Bible study by Beth Moore herself along with a group study participation. Come grow with us! Childcare from nursery to pre-school provided beginning at 9:15 AM. Contact Sandy Snellenberger at 860-432-0241 or dalesnel@att.net, or see her at church. Class will be held in the Fellowship Hall of Manchester Church of the Nazarene.



Weekly Meetings

Wednesday Night Refresh—7 PM

For the next four Wednesdays, December 9- the 30, we will be doing a special study on the birth of Christ. There are many misnomers that Christians believe, and we of all people should know the Biblical account! It's a great activity for Advent to dwell, meditate and study this magnificent series of incredible miracles. We will be so filled with awe that we can do nothing less than share it with others around us! Children are welcome to sit and study with us, as well as sit on the floor and play. Come and be refreshed this Christmas season!

Celebrate Recovery— Men and Women—7 PM

Celebrate Recovery East of the River meets in the lower level of the McLain (aka Cornerstone) Building, Alone or struggling over the holidays? Drop in! Or, join us after Christmas Eve Service THIS THURSDAY (Christmas Eve):

- 7:00 PM Teaching Night/Drop in—"Lori" (video)
- 7:45 PM Afterglow (coffee & with it)
- 8:00 PM Open Share Groups—Men's/Women's

NEXT THURSDAY (New Year's Eve): – *Home Run, the Movie* – THE PUBLIC IS INVITED FREE!

7:00 PM in the McLain Building

Additional information is in the Lobby.

Saturation Prayer—Saturdays at 7 PM

Want to make a significant difference in this world in 2016? We can by coming together as a church and praying. The hopes and promises are unlimited as we gather in unity to pray God's will into our community, church and families. Everything we do as a church will have an anointing and power that can come only from our humble perseverance, joined together at the foot of the cross. Consider a New Year's Resolution that includes committing to be present for our weekly prayer meeting once a week, once a month, or even once a quarter. Let's saturate our church and community with rivers of living water!